

Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 11, 2004.

PN1888 MARINE CORPS nomination of John M. Sessoms, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 8, 2004.

PN1987 MARINE CORPS nomination of Randy O. Carter, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 21, 2004.

#### IN THE NAVY

PN1889 NAVY nominations (146) beginning ANDREW M ARCHILA, and ending RICHARD G ZEBER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 8, 2004.

PN1890 NAVY nominations (22) beginning RAY A BAILEY, and ending DAVID A STROUD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 8, 2004.

PN1891 NAVY nominations (87) beginning RAYMOND ALEXANDER, and ending MARK A ZIEGLER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 8, 2004.

PN1892 NAVY nominations (52) beginning STEVEN W ASHTON, and ending JASON D ZEDA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 8, 2004.

PN1893 NAVY nominations (140) beginning TAMMERA L ACKISS, and ending KATHLEEN L YUHAS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 8, 2004.

PN1894 NAVY nominations (243) beginning IK J AHN, and ending SARA B ZIMMER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 8, 2004.

PN1895 NAVY nominations (40) beginning KERRY L ABRAMSON, and ending ANDRUE E WALL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 8, 2004.

PN1937 NAVY nomination of Arthur B. Short, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2004.

PN1938 NAVY nomination of Scott Drayton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2004.

PN1939 NAVY nomination of Cipriano Pineda Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2004.

PN1940 NAVY nominations (25) beginning MICHAEL P AMSTUTZ JR, and ending JAMES J WOJTCWICZ, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2004.

PN1941 NAVY nominations (31) beginning JERRY L ALEXANDER, and ending LORI C WORKS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2004.

PN1942 NAVY nominations (41) beginning PATRICK L BENNETT, and ending ERNEST C WOODWARD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2004.

PN1943 NAVY nominations (19) beginning CLAUDE W ARNOLD JR, and ending STEVEN M WENDELIN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2004.

PN1944 NAVY nominations (31) beginning CHRISTOPHER L BOWEN, and ending WILLIAM L WOOD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2004.

PN1945 NAVY nominations (63) beginning JULIE M ALFIERI, and ending DONNA I YACOVONI, which nominations were re-

ceived by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2004.

PN1946 NAVY nominations (21) beginning MARIANIE O BALOLONG, and ending KAREN M WINGEART, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2004.

PN1947 NAVY nominations (239) beginning THOMAS G ALFORD, and ending KENDAL T ZAMZOW, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2004.

PN1948 NAVY nominations (809) beginning RYAN D AARON, and ending DAVID G ZOOK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2004.

PN1964 NAVY nominations (5) beginning GLENN A. JETT, and ending MATTHEW WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 2004.

PN1965 NAVY nominations (65) beginning RICHARD S ADCOOK, and ending JEFFREY G ZELLER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 2004.

PN1966 NAVY nomination of Daniel C. Ritenburg, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 2004.

PN1988 NAVY nomination of Dwayne Banks, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 21, 2004.

PN1989 NAVY nominations (8) beginning BILLY R. DAVIS, and ending WILLIAM H. SPEAKS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 21, 2004.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

#### WELFARE REFORM EXTENSION ACT, PART VIII

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to consideration of H.R. 5149, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5149) to reauthorize the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant program through March 31, 2005, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, the state of children's health insurance program, or SCHIP, is one of the largest and most successful expansion of public health insurance for children since the creation of Medicaid. This vitally important program was created through a bipartisan commitment to expanding health coverage for children. Because today is the last day of the fiscal year for the Federal Government, \$1.1 billion in unspent SCHIP funds are set to expire. These are funds that have been reallocated and then subsequently have had their availability extended several times over the past few years. In addition approximately \$660 million

in unspent 2002 state allotments are available to Secretary Thompson to redistribute to states that have spent their 2002 allotments.

I want to go on the record to say that I am absolutely committed to finding a bipartisan solution that will keep the \$1.1 billion in the SCHIP program. Congress can, and should, address this issue before recessing in October, but if not, certainly before the close of the session. I want to work together with my colleagues in both parties toward a productive approach. The SCHIP program was created when people reached across the aisle and joined together to do the right thing to get kids health coverage. Today we need to move forward with this same spirit of cooperation and commitment.

We can also improve the SCHIP program to get more kids covered. In 2003, SCHIP covered 5.8 million targeted low-income individuals. However, a substantial number of children who are eligible for health coverage through SCHIP are not enrolled. This is a serious issue that deserves our thoughtful attention. We can do better.

The Federal Government should commit itself to getting more of these kids enrolled. They are entitled to health coverage under this vitally important program, yet billions of SCHIP dollars lie unspent. These unspent dollars are not helping any children today. I would hope that we can work out a plan to target a portion of the \$1.1 billion in expiring SCHIP funding towards a coordinated SCHIP outreach plan so that as many eligible children as possible receive the coverage they deserve.

Of course, I am aware that there are fiscal concerns from states that can impede their ability to use State dollars to match Federal SCHIP dollars. Some are also concerned that increased enrollment will place a burden on states already struggling with the rising cost of health care. I really believe, however, that we can find a way to get more kids covered and provide states incentives to do so.

The fact that these funds are expiring does not mean that the SCHIP program is in danger of imminent collapse. That is not the case. While I am informed by CMS that six States face potential SCHIP shortfalls in FY05, Secretary Thompson has indicated that, unless Congress passes legislation to address these shortfalls, he will redistribute the approximately \$660 million in 2002 allotments, which is more than enough to make up for these shortfalls in 2005.

Working together, Congress can reallocate the expiring \$1.1 billion after tomorrow with no impact on the SCHIP program. In fact, in the past, Congress has acted months later to reallocate expired SCHIP funds back into the program. So it is not the case that September 30th is the "drop dead date" for action. In fact, when the FY1998 and FY1999 reallocations expired at the close of FY2002, Congress acted in 2003 to "reinstate" these funds through